

October XX, 2021
Ms. Alushca Ritchie
President
World Federation of Tourist Guide Association



Dear Ms. Ritchie,

I am very pleased to be able to write to you to recommendation Fukuoka as a candidate place to host the 20th Convention of the World Federation of Tourist Guide Association (WFTGA) in 2024.

According to a survey conducted jointly by the Development Bank of Japan and the Japan Travel Bureau Foundation in June and December 2020, which polled 5,700 travelers from Europe, the United States, Australia, and Asia, Japan is currently the top country people want to visit. This shows that there is a growing interest in visiting Japan among travelers from around the world.

At IJCEE, we have considerable expertise in the needs of guides. We are the largest interpreter guide organization in Japan, focusing on training professional interpreter guides. From our experiences, we would like to recommend Fukuoka as the venue of the 20th World Federation of Tourist Guide Associations Convention in 2024.

Our recommendation is due to the following: Fukuoka is a historically important place that has long been open to foreign countries because of its proximity to the Asian mainland. What is more critical for tourist guides coming to Fukuoka is that this city is suitable for understanding the wide-ranging allures of Japan, from Japanese history, and traditional crafts to the lives of ordinary people and the modern futuristic areas.

Specifically, in the vicinity of Fukuoka, you can easily visit a famous shrine dating back to the 7th century, an area prominent for its fine pottery, food stalls where you can have a glimpse at the life of the ordinary people, and a modern town by the sea. For these reasons, it is our belief that touristic guides will get the most out of attending the convention in Fukuoka.

I look forward to welcoming you and other members from your esteemed organization.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "R. Yonehara". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a long, sweeping underline.

Ryozo Yonehara
President
Institute for Japanese Culture Experience and Education